

Arabah.
April 17th 1931.

Dear Mother.

The Afreet arrived yesterday & has caused a lot of amusement, Amice says I am no lady if I have a thing like that in my bath. I shall give Ahmud the necklace to take to his daughter-in-law next Tuesday, I expect they will all be very pleased. I think I shall keep the box as nice boxes are treasures out here.

Do you remember the old frock I brought with me to wear in evenings here, it was a sort of fawn with roses & pink crepe-de-chine let in to the skirt. I gave it to Mahmud's wife to make into a frock for her little girl. she came wearing it this evening as proud as punch. They are so poor that the children are dressed in any old rag that will hang together. so you can imagine what a silk frock must have felt like. The poor little mite has had opthalmia, she is only three or half & she was so plucky having ^{her eyes} ~~them~~ attended to & they are now quite all right again, I have also turned over my green gingham dress for one of the others.

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The weather is still comfortable, so I we shall be here until the first week in May. I am afraid we shall not be able to finish as much as we hoped. The painting takes such a long time, there is so much detail, but we want to get as much as we possibly can finished this month.

Joey is having a very lazy time we have hardly used him at all since he has been mended. I shall have almost forgotten how to drive. It is no pleasure driving along the roads the people & the animals all over the place makes it very anxious work. & since his mishap in the desert Amice has'nt cared about joy riding among rocks, it would be awkward if he had another misfortune & we could'nt get him back to Cairo. it is bad luck that the spare parts belonging to his model were destroyed in the fire.

We have taught our cat not to meow. he is a tiny cat, but he has the most awful voice, & he would yowl at meal times, so we splashed water in his face each time he did it. & now after

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Three days of this treatment he has learnt not to raise his voice above a whisper - dont you think he is clever

Our dog found the way into the temple yesterday & came & had lunch with us, he behaved very well & we were able to compare him with his namesake the dog headed god on the walls. they are very much alike -

I am so glad Pat likes her new job. give her my love & tell her I hope she will be able to join us in some good outings this summer - Brighton!! perhaps -

I hope the shoe parcel will have arrived before this. they always take so much longer than letters as they have to wait for a P&O. & are not sent across France -

Lots of love to you both
Your affectionate daughter
Myrtle.

PS. Our throats are all right again now

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